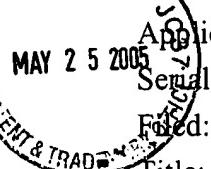


S/N 10/789,890

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**



Applicant: Klaus F. Schuegraf et al. Examiner: Calvin Lee  
Serial No.: 10/789,890 Group Art Unit: 2825  
Filed: February 27, 2004 Docket No.: 303.278US2  
Title: METHOD TO PREVENT METAL OXIDE FORMATION DURING POLYCIDING REOXIDATION

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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This responds to the Office Action mailed on December 22, 2004. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

This response is accompanied by a Petition, as well as the appropriate fee, to obtain a two-month extension of the period for responding to the Office Action, thereby moving the deadline for response from March 22, 2005 to May 22, 2005.